

MARCH 6, 2016
Fourth Sunday of Lent
THE FAITH COMMUNITY OF
ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI

Mission Statement: St. Francis of Assisi is a Roman Catholic worshipping community, dedicated to ministering to our members and to the greater community in the image given to us by Jesus. This ministry is centered on the Sacraments and our Acts of Faith, Hope and Charity.



Pastor – Fr. Anthony Francis Spilka, OFMConv
St. Francis of Assisi, 120 Barron Avenue
Johnstown (Hockeyville), PA 15906
Rectory Phone – 814-539-1632
Activity Center – 814 – 539-3518
Fax: 814 – 539-5888
Email – sfassisich@atlanticbnn.net
Oremus Ministry (Prayer Chain) – 814-539-1632
Web Site: <http://www.stfrancisofassisijohnstown.com>

Daily Mass Schedule at St. Francis of Assisi
Mon. thru Fri. – 12Noon; Tues.–6:30PM; Sat; 8:00AM
First Friday 8:00AM and 5:30 PM
Confession – Tues., 6:00PM, Sat. 3:15 – 3:45PM
First Friday 5:00PM

Weekend Mass Schedule
Saturday – 4:00PM / Sunday – 7:30AM / 9:30AM
Parish Secretary – Carol Pisula
Office Hours – 9:00AM to 3:00PM – Mon. thru Thurs
Parish Council President – Ryan Woodruff – 659-9781
Finance Council President – Robert Bimeal – 536-5114
Cemetery Council President - William Heim – 254-2942
Music Minister – Gale Bala
Director of Religious Education – Carol Pisula – 254-1961

Baptism – Parents are expected to be registered members of the Parish and to attend a class for new parents in preparation for the Baptism of their child. It is encouraged that this be done prior to the birth of the child. Please call the Rectory to make early arrangements.

Reconciliation – The Sacrament of God’s merciful love and compassion is celebrated Tues at 6 PM and Sat 3:15 PM at St. Francis of Assisi. Communal Penance Services - Advent and Lent.

Anointing of the Sick Communal – Celebration 2nd Sunday of Advent and 3rd Sunday of Lent.

Marriage In accordance with Diocesan directives, arrangements must be made at least 9 months before the marriage date. All couples are required to attend Diocesan sponsored Pre-Cana sessions and to participate in the FOCCUS inventory. Call the Rectory for information and schedules.

Christian Initiation (RCIA) – Those who are interested in becoming Catholic, as well as those who are interested in learning more about their Catholic Faith, may call the Parish office for more information.

Parish Membership – We are always happy to welcome new parishioners. You may register at the Parish office. Registration, the practice of stewardship (the regular use of envelopes) and regular participation in the Eucharist Indicates active membership and eligibility to act as a Godparent or Sponsor. Your stewardship of time, treasure and talent is essential for the common good and provides a stable income for the Parish, enabling us to prepare a budget.

Ministry to the Sick - If you or someone you know are unable to attend Mass and would like to receive the Sacrament of Penance or Holy Eucharist please contact the Parish Office to schedule a visit.

PLEASE TAKE NOTE: Beginning on Monday, March 7 thru Thursday, March 17, the Parish Office will only be open from 9:00AM until 12Noon. Thank you for your cooperation in limiting phone calls and visits to the office during those hours.

DEACON BRUCE BECKER will lead a *Bible Study Group* for 2 consecutive Tuesdays from 3:30PM – 4:30PM continuing March 8 and ending on March 15. The Bible Study will focus on the power and Mercy of Jesus' Miracles as a focus on the Jubilee Year of Mercy.

OUR NEXT FISH FRY will take place on Friday, March 11. This will be the last Lenten Fish Fry. *PLEASE: if you have not yet volunteered to lend a hand, any amount of time you can spare will make the job easier for all involved* **THANK YOU TO ALL WHO HAVE TAKEN THE TIME TO VOLUNTEER!**

BAKE SALE: Due to a limited supply of Gobs we are asking for donations of Baked Goods to be sold at the Lenten Fish Fries. Items can be brought to the Church Hall on Thursday mornings **by 11:00AM**. All profits from the Bake Sale will be used to offset the cost of advertising.

LENT SCHEDULE: During Lent, daily Mass (Mon. thru Fri.) will take place at 12Noon (Tues. - Mass with the Novena to St. Anthony will also be celebrated at 6:30PM). Stations of the Cross will be prayed on all Fridays of Lent at 7:00PM. Lenten Lamentations will be held on Sundays of Lent with the Divine Mercy Chaplet at 3:00PM – The Hour of Mercy.

MINISTRY SCHEDULE – There is a signup sheet in the vestibule for altar servers, lectors and Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion for Holy Week and Easter. Please volunteer to take part in these liturgies. Assignments will be made if slots are not filled by Sunday, March 13.

CHILDREN'S EASTER EGG HUNT will be held Sunday, March 20 at 2:00PM in the Activity Center for children 10 & under. Please use the signup sheet in the vestibule. **DEADLINE FOR SIGNUP: SUNDAY, MARCH 13. ALL CHILDREN MUST BE REGISTERED** to determine the number attending.

PASKA BREAD will be sold on a "First come, first serve" basis after the Masses on Sat., Mar. 19 & Sun., Mar. 20 from 10:30AM until 1:00PM. Plain - \$5.00, raisin - \$5.25. *Limit of 2 loaves per family.* Takeout Turkey Dinners - \$6.00 (Sun. only) will also be sold along with Gobs - \$1.25.

SEDER MEAL – Annual Commemoration of the Seder Meal will take place on Holy Thursday, March 24 at 5:00PM in the Activity Center. This will be a covered dish event with the Parish providing the meat. Bring your favorite dish to share and join other parishioners in this celebration of the Passover Meal. Signup sheets are in the vestibule. **Deadline for signup: Sunday, March 20.**

SANCTUARY CANDLE will burn this week for Health of Rose Trapanotto by Family.

CONTRIBUTIONS TO OUR PARISH LAST WEEKEND: Loose - \$292.75; Adults - \$2,296.01; Children - \$30.00; Monthly - \$151.00; Candles - \$71.76; Mandeville - \$19.00; Black & Indian Mission - \$19.00; Ash Wednesday - \$14.00; Catholic Register - \$21.00; Misc. - \$419.79. Total Collection: \$3,334.31. Thank you for your continued generosity to the parish.

THANK YOU to all who have participated in the Annual Catholic Appeal. As of February 29, \$3,142.00 was pledged toward our goal of \$23,864.00 with 29 of 326 families contributing (9% participation). If you do not have a pledge card, you may place your gift (made payable to "Annual Catholic Appeal") in the collection basket, or you may make an online gift at www.dioceseaj.org. Thank you for your Lenten offering.

YEAR OF MERCY BULLETIN BOARD: In the vestibule of the Church you will find a bulletin board with the Saints of Mercy. Please take a heart, write your name on it and place it on the bulletin board as an extension of the Holy Door created by the Religious Education students.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Tuesday, Mar. 8, March. 15 – Bible Study – 3:30PM – 4:30PM

Lent Fish Fries will continue on Friday, March 11.

Stations of the Cross – Fridays of Lent at 7:00PM

Lenten Lamentations – Sundays of Lent with the Divine Mercy Chaplet at 3:00PM

Saturday, March 19, Sunday, March 20 – Paska Bread Sale (first come, first serve)

Sunday, March 20 – Easter Egg Hunt – 2:00PM

Holy Thursday, March 24 - Seder Meal – 5:00PM

Holy Thursday, March 24 – Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper – 7:00PM, adoration until 10:00PM

Good Friday, March 25 – Tenebrae – 9:00AM

Good Friday, March 25 – Commemoration of the Lord's Passion – 3:00PM, Stations of the Cross – 7:00PM

Holy Saturday, March 26 – Tenebrae – 9:00AM, Blessing of Baskets – 1:00PM & 2:00PM

Holy Saturday, March 26 – Great Vigil of Easter – 8:30PM

LENTEN PENANCE SERVICES:

- Monday, March 7 – West End Penance Service, Resurrection – 5:30PM
- Thursday, March 10 – Transfiguration, Conemaugh – 6:30PM
- Monday, March 14 - Our Mother of Sorrows — 6:30PM
- Tuesday, March 15 – Visitation – 5:30PM
- Thursday, March 17 – St. Elizabeth Ann Seton – 6:00PM
- Thursday, March 17 – St. John Gualbert Cathedral – 5:30PM
- Monday, March 21 – St. Benedict – 5:00PM

During the Fourth Week of Lent, our focus is on the SIGN that was placed above the head of Jesus. First thought to be a SIGN OF CONDEMNATION, but now thought to be a SIGN OF VICTORY. The SIGN stands as a continued testimony of God’s love for us. I.N.R.I. – Jesus of Nazareth, King of the Jews. The first letters of the Latin inscription which, by Pilate’s order was placed on the Cross of Christ’s Crucifixion (John 19:19). The words JESUS NAZARENUS REX IUDEAEORUM were taken from Pilate’s sentence. It was written in Latin, the language of the administration in Judea and also in Hebrew/Aramaic, the common language of the Jews of the days and Greek, the language of the intellectual community. Because of the irrevocability of a Roman sentence, this inscription stood as written against the protest of the Jews who wished to disclaim Christ’s Kingship (John 19:21). Thus, the inscription has become a lasting testimony of the Kingship of Jesus (Matthew 27:37). Above His Head they had put the charge against Him in writing: THIS IS JESUS, KING OF THE JEWS (Mark 15:26). The inscription proclaiming His offense read: THE KING OF THE JEWS (Luke 23:28).

There was an inscription over His Head: THIS IS THE KING OF THE JEWS (John 19:19-22). Pilate had an inscription place on the Cross which read: JESUS THE NAZOREAN, THE KING OF THE JEWS. This inscription in Hebrew, Latin and Greek was read by many of the Jews, since the place was near the city. The Chief Priests of the Jews tried to tell Pilate, “You should not have written the King of the Jews.” Write instead, “This Man claimed to be King of the Jews.” Pilate answered, “What I have written, I have written.”



PLEASE PRAY FOR THOSE WHO ARE SICK OR HOMEBOUND

Bill Babik, Rose Blaschak, Jean Chase, Sister Carol Jean Czymnik, Mary Davis, Joan Delusa, Stephen Fabina, LeAnn Golby, Alicia Junghans, Susan Keselyak, Kathryn Legat, Helen Malysko, Baby Patrick Munro, Nilay Parekh (Bishop McCort High School), Sophie Regula, Carly Rice, Doug Rice, James Schuster, Joanna Stone, Carol Sobacky, Leona Sutt, Agnes Swarney, Jeanne Toth, Rose Trapanotto, Irene Virus, and Agnes Warhul.

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SALUTE TO THOSE SERVING IN THE MILITARY AND A REMEMBRANCE IN OUR PRAYERS

May God bless these brave men and women who serve God and Country.

Ensign Adam Guaro, USCG; **Brandon Burdett**, USMC; **Master at Arms 2nd Class Izeke W. Pinkas**, Okinawa, Japan; **Lt. Col. Joshua P. Higgins**, US Army ; **Petty Officer 1st Class Paul Rambish**, US Navy, Coronado Naval Base, San Diego; **Ret. SMSgt. Michael A. Caddy**, **Major Melinda Rován Corallo**, Lakenheath Air Force Base, England; **HMC David Bakos**, US Navy; **PFC; Lance Corporal Jacob Taylor**, USMC; **Private 1st Class Zack Taylor**, US Army; **Spc. Cody Holloway**, US Army, Afghanistan; **Trista L. Urban**, PFC, Army National Guard; **Jared N. Dull**, HM3, US Navy, Quantico, Va.; **Stefanie Kollar**, TSgt. Air Force, Hurlburt Field, Fort Walton Beach, Fla., **Fr. Don Fullerton**, USS Enterprise, **Airman 1st. Class Maxwell Schutte**, F. E. Warren, Wy; **Sgt. Bryan Maxwell Porath**, **1st Lt Aaron Donahey**, US Army, Fort Bliss, El Paso, Texas; **Petty Officer 1st Class Heather L. Dovala**, Bahrain.; **Spec Jarod Pisarchik**, Army National Guard; **Ens. Kara Yingling**, USS Higgins; **Lt. JG Shannon Yingling**; **Pvt Daniel Maslo**, Camp Geiger, NC; **Airman Devon Gilbert**, Tinker AFB, OK; **Senior Airman Daniel Christner**, USAF, 193rd Special Operations Wing; **Lt. Col Steven Thomas**, USAF, deploying to the Middle East; **2nd Lt. Colin Harrington**, US Army, Bethesda, MD; **2nd Lt. Ryan Powers**, USMC, Camp Lejeune, NC; **Anthony Rosage**, USAF, The Presidio, Monterey, CA.

To add a name to our Salute to those in the Military, please call 539-1632. If a person is no longer serving on active or reserve duty, please call the Parish Office to remove his/her name.

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COMMUNITY NEWS

PRO LIFE VIGIL Every Thursday from 4:00PM - 5:00PM we hold a prayer vigil across from the Franklin Street Planned Parenthood facility here in Johnstown. For more information call Gale at 539-0155.

ST. JOSEPH TRIDUUM- a Triduum in honor of St. Joseph will be held March 17-19 at St. John Gualbert Cathedral. Mass & devotions will be held at 5:00PM each day. On Saturday, everyone is invited following the final liturgy to the St. Joseph Table at the Parish Activity Center.

ST. PATRICK'S DAY PARTY- Resurrection Parish Hall, Saturday, March 19. Doors open at 6:00PM. Music provided by Tree from 7:00PM – 10:00PM. Limited seating – to make a \$5.00 admission registration, please call Greg Babik at 322-6884 or the Parish Office at 539-5788, ext. 3. Plenty of Irish food, soda and beer will be available for purchase.

ST. ANDREW SCHOOL will be hosting its 14th Annual Basket Party on Sunday, April 3. Doors open at Noon and drawings begin at 2:00PM. Admission is \$10 and includes lunch, dessert, beverage, and 25 chances. All admission tickets are sold in advance and are available at the school office (Mon-Fri, 288-2811). You **MUST** have a ticket to attend – no tickets will be sold at the door. There are only 400 seats available so purchase yours today.

CATHEDRAL CATHOLIC ACADEMY – will be hosting a Basket Party on Sunday, April 10 at St. John Gualbert Activity Center. Doors will open at 12:00Noon and drawings will begin at 2:30PM. Tickets are \$10 each and include light lunch, beverage, 25 basket tickets and a chance for a door prize. Tickets are on sale now and can be purchased in person or by mail at Cathedral Catholic Academy, 110 Lindberg Ave., 15905.